Wm Henrey (Hen) Walker

The old Smith home in Heber where many dances were held during the years on the second floor.

the famous "Bolton Choir" of England and performed on several occasions before Queen Victoria.

Through their training and interest in music, the Forties organized one of the first choirs in Heber Valley. The only music in the beginning was an old Sanky and Moody hymnal which Mr. Fortie had brought from Scotland. There was no organ or piano available for accompaniment, so Mr. Fortie would play the cornet and teach choir members the notes, and then play the cornet while the choir sang their numbers.

When Wasatch Stake was organized, Mr. Fortie became the first stake chorister. By this time an organ had been purchased and Jane H. Turner and Mary Bond were trained as accompanists for choirs and other singing.

Another early music leader in Heber was Roger Horrocks who played a bass viol, which he affectionately called his "Baby." Mr. Horrocks accompanied the choir singing, and provided music for many special programs and dances. Other popular musicians in early Heber included "Hen" Walker, Jim Wheeler and Will Murdock who played the banjo, violin and accordion, and Robert McKnight, a violinist. The Murdock brothers, Tom, Dave, Brig and Joe, along with Dick Duke and Edd Murdock were also popular dance musicians.

In addition to choir singing, music was primarily enjoyed for dancing parties. Orchestras or individual musicians traveled throughout the valley to play for dances and socials. The music for many years con-

Threshing time at Center Creek. Shown here are Albert Giles on the wheel of the old tractor, with Archie Briggs on the ground and James W. Lindsay on the thresher.

Threshing time in late summer or early fall also brought hard work and excitement to the farms. Most farmers would pool their efforts, and travel from farm to farm to complete the work. Threshing crews generally consisted of from 10 to 15 men.

For weeks in advance the women-folk would plan the food, and dishes would be borrowed and loaned all over the community. Pies, cakes and steamed puddings would be cooked for days before the men were scheduled to arrive. Then, when the threshing machines rolled into the fields, vegetables, meats, home made bread, pickles and jam were all added to the menu. The men who sat down to the tables put away the food almost as fast as the threshing machines ate up the bundles of wheat or oats in the fields. And, it seemed more than coincidence that the break-downs usually occurred at the places where the food was best.

However, life was more than just hard work for the farmers. In the evenings they enjoyed taking part in dramatics, in music and in sports. Center always boasted excellent ball teams, and some of the best players included the three Ryan brothers, Homer, Ern and Frank along with Jack and Alex Allison, Nels Miller, Virge Howe, Jim Lindsay Jr., and Orvis Call. Hugh W. Harvey was an excellent singer, and in company with Livingston Montgomery provided some of the musical highlights of the valley. He also took leading roles in dramatics along with the Cluff family. Dancing also occupied a large part of the social life, and people would travel from the community to community to enjoy dancing parties. Jim Wheeler, Henry Walker, William and Homer Ryan, Dick Duke, Ed